

Message Text

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ORIGIN HEW-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TBIO, YO

SUBJECT: U.S.-YUGOSLAV HEALTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM;
PROJECT 02-001-0; DR. MILAN BULAJACIC
BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SUBJECT EXCHANGE, DR. MILAN BULAJACIC, CHIEF DEPARTMENT OF GYNEOLOGY, CITY HOSPITAL AT OBGYN, BELGRADE ARRIVED IN USA ON MAY 31, 1978 FOR THREE MONTH VISIT TO STUDY US PROGRAM IN FAMILY PLANNING. DR. BULAJACIC WAS TO HAVE HAD THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF VISIT SUPPORTED BY YUGOSLAVIAN AUTHORITIES - EITHER THE SERBIAN GOVERNMENT OR HIS INSTITUTION - AND ONLY THE THIRD MONTH WAS TO BE SUPPORTED FULLY FROM THE INDIVIDUAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM. UPON ARRIVAL IN THE USA, HEW/OIH LEARNED THAT DR. BULAJACIC WAS PROVIDED ONLY 22 DOLLARS PER DAY PER DIEM BY YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES. THIS SMALL PER DIEM HAS PLACED SEVERE CONSTRAINTS ON PLANS HEW HAD MADE, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO ACCOMMODATIONS IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WASHINGTON, ATLANTA, FLORIDA, NEW ORLEANS, HOUSTON, LA.,
SAN FRANCISCO, NEW YORK CITY AS WELL AS IN CITY TRANSPORTATION.

2. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH YUGOSLAV EMBASSY SCIATT, RAJACIC, HEW/OIH HAS DECIDED TO SUPPLEMENT DR. BULAJACIC'S PER DIEM TO ALLOW FOR ORDERLY COMPLETION OF HIS PLANNED

PROGRAM. HEW/OIH REQUIRES FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM SUBJECT PROJECT TO SUPPLEMENT DR. BULAJACIC'S PER DIEM TO TOTAL 47 DOLLARS PER DAY WHICH IS OFFICIAL YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT RATE AND THAT AGREED BY JOINT BOARD FOR ALL EXCHANGEES IN SUBJECT PROGRAM.

3. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO FORWARD TO HEW/OIH, DR. ROBERT D. FISCHER, ACTING ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL HEALTH, 5600 FISHERS LANE, ROCKVILLE, MD. 20857, TELE 301 443-4010 ASAP A BANK DRAFT IN AMOUNT OF 2910 DOLLARS. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO CONVERT APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF DINARS TO DOLLARS IF AT ALL POSSIBLE SINCE CONVERSION IN USA IS LIKELY TO CREATE DIFFICULTIES ALTHOUGH HEW/OIH WILL ATTEMPT TO CONVERT DINARS IN USA IF THAT WOULD EXPEDITE MATTERS. BREAK DOWN OF 2910 DOLLARS IS 25 DOLLARS FOR 60 DAYS - NOTE: 25 PLUS 22 EQUALS 47 - EQUALS 1500 PLUS 47 DOLLARS FOR 30 DAYS EQUALS 1410 DOLLARS. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO CHARGE ALL COSTS TO APPROP. NUMBER: 75X1102; CAN: A-731102; PROJECT: 02-001-0; OBJECT CLASS: 25.31. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN LOU: FOR EMBASSY INFORMATION, DR. BULAJACIC IS CLOSE RELATIVE OF AMBASSADOR KRISTO BULAJACIC, HEAD OF FAISECTC AND THIS WHOLE EPISODE HAS BEEN HANDLED WITH SOME SPECIAL CONCERN BY YUGOSLAVIA EMBASSY. RAJACIC IS FRANKLY DISTURBED WITH YUGOSLAVIAN AUTHORITIES WHO PLACED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DR. BULAJACIC IN SUCH AN UNTENABLE POSITION. AT SAME TIME, RAJACIC IS ANXIOUS THAT FAISECTC NOT BE BROUGHT INTO THE MATTER AND CERTAINLY NOT AS SUBJECT OF CRITICISM. IN GENERAL, HEW/OIH IS THOROUGHLY DISENCHANTED WITH YUGOSLAVIAN INABILITY TO ARRANGE SUCH EXCHANGES IN ORDERLY FASHION. EVERY YUGOSLAVIAN EXCHANGEES TO DATE HAS HAD COMPLICATIONS OF THIS SORT. HEW/OIH WOULD APPRECIATE ANY EMBASSY ADVISE ON HOW TO PREVENT SUCH OCCURANCES IN THE FUTURE. AT THIS POINT HOWEVER, HEW/OIH FEELS IT MUST ATTEMPT TO SALVAGE THIS TRIP BY UNPRECEDENTED ACTIONS. IF EMBASSY HAS ANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH REQUEST PER PAR. 3, THEY SHOULD TELEPHONE FISCHER ASAP. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. NEWSOM

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